



Iowa Board of Social Work Emergency Proclamation Guidelines

On March 22, 2020, Governor Kim Reynolds issued a Proclamation of Emergency Disaster. In this Proclamation, Governor Reynolds temporarily suspended a number of regulatory provisions applicable to a number of professions, including those professions regulated by the Board of Social Work. The Proclamation eases administrative rules relating to renewal of licenses, continuing education, and background checks. *The suspension of rules identified in the Proclamation is effective through April 16, 2020, unless the Governor terminates or extends the Proclamation.* As required in the Proclamation, the Board of Social Work issues this guidance relating to the temporary suspension of administrative rules in these areas:

License Renewal

Licenses are not scheduled to expire until December 31, 2020. The Board does not anticipate the Proclamation having an impact on license renewal. In the event the Proclamation is extended in a manner that does impact license renewal, the Board will send additional information at that time.

Continuing Education

Licensees are already allowed to obtain all of the required continuing education hours online. Due to licenses not expiring until December 31, 2020, the required continuing education hours for license renewal are not being waived at this time. Licensees will still be required to obtain 27 hours of continuing education. The Board will continue to monitor this issue and provide additional guidance as the window for compliance narrows.

Supervision Requirements

Licensees who begin their period of supervised professional practice for licensure at the independent level while the Proclamation is in effect are not required to have their first supervision meeting in person. Licensees are already permitted to have the remaining supervision meetings via electronic means.

Out-of-state Social Workers

For the duration of the Proclamation, individuals who are licensed as social workers in another state, whose license is in good standing, may provide services to Iowans through electronic means without obtaining a license from the Board.